

ABSTRACT

A process for thermally treating an article made from an alloy comprising at least aluminum and copper. The process comprises solid solution heat treating the article, quenching the article, heating the article to a first temperature of from about 275 to about 340°F and artificially aging. The article is artificially aged at the first temperature for a duration of at least 30 minutes. The article is artificially aged at a second temperature of from about 325 to about 380°F for a duration of from about 4 hours to about 36 hours. The second temperature is greater than the first temperature by at least 10°F.